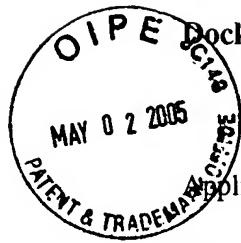


IPW



Docket No. F-7886

MAILSTOP PETITION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/616,322
Filed : July 8, 2003
For : PLEAT OR CORRUGATION OF A BELLows OF A CONNECTION
BETWEEN TWO HINGE-LINKED VEHICLES OR VEHICLE
SECTIONS E.G., OF AN ARTICULATED BUS
Group Art Unit : 3612
Examiner : Robert KOCH et al.
Confirmation No. : 1374
Customer No. : 000028107

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MailStop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 28, 2005.

Frank J. Jordan
(Name)

04/28/05

(Signature and Date)

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.181 FILED
AFTER ISSUANCE OF THE NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
REQUESTING THE EXAMINER TO CONSIDER THE
EARLIER TIMELY FILED IDS DATED MARCH 24, 2005**

Sir:

This is a Petition Under 37 CFR 1.181 requesting the Examiner to acknowledge that he has considered the earlier and timely filed IDS dated March 24, 2005.

The Notice of Allowance issued on April 8, 2005. In the Notice of Allowance and the Notice of Allowability the Examiner did not acknowledged that he considered the IDS dated March 24, 2005. Enclosed is a copy of the IDS dated March 24, 2005 along with the fax transmittal data showing the fax number (703) 872-9306 and indicating successful transmission of the fax.

Enclosed is another copy of the same IDS dated March 24, 2005 which was faxed directly to Examiner Patel at fax number (703) 746-3522 and indicating successful transmission of the fax.

A review of the PAIR system it indicates that the IDS of March 24, 2005 was received in the Patent Office on March 24, 2005.

The IDS of March 24, 2005 was filed before the date (April 8, 2005) of the Notice of Allowance. Also the IDS of March 24, 2005 was filed before any issuance of a Final Rejection. The IDS of March 24, 2005 authorized a charge of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

This also confirms a telephone interview between the undersigned and Examiner Patel on or about March 24, 2005 wherein Counsel explained to Examiner Patel that Counsel wished to file an IDS before issuance of a Notice of Allowance of a Final Rejection. Accordingly, Examiner Patel suggested that Counsel file the Official copy of the IDS at fax number (703) 872-9306 and an informal fax copy which would go directly to Examiner Patel's desk at fax number (703) 746-3522. As indicated above, this is what Counsel has done. It is respectfully submitted therefore that the IDS dated March 24, 2005 was filed in accordance with all applicable rules, that it was timely filed and that the Examiner should indicate that he has considered such IDS.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner issue an official document indicating that he has considered the IDS dated March 24, 2005.

It is believed that there is no charge for filing this Petition. However, if there are any charges, please charge to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,

JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP

By 
Frank J. Jordan
Reg. No. 20,456
Attorney for Applicants

Jordan and Hamburg LLP
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10168
(212) 986-2340

FJJ/cj

Enc. Copy of IDS dated March 24, 2005, with all enclosures, faxed to fax number (703) 872-9306

Copy of IDS dated March 24, 2005, with all enclosures, faxed directly to Examiner Patel at fax number (703) 746-3522

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F-7886

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

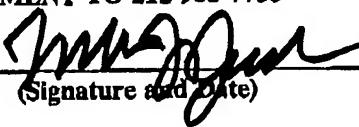
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 Group Art Unit : 3612
 Examiner : Kiram B. Patel
 Confirmation No. : 000028107

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the United States Patent Office addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 24, 2005 to facsimile no. (703) 872-9306.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED: 4
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Frank J. Jordan
 (Name)


 (Signature and Date)

03/24/05

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

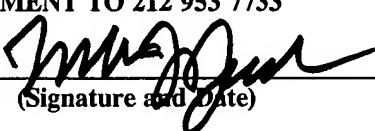
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03/24/05

Mail Stop Amendment
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Attached hereto is an English translation of the claims of German Reference DE-OS 26 17931. A German language copy of this German reference was previously filed in the Patent

Office with the initial filing of the application on July 8, 2003. This German reference is also mentioned in the International Search Report and also on page 2 of the applicant's specification. This German reference was also used against the corresponding German application.

Since applicant previously forwarded a copy of this German reference to the Patent Office along with a concise statement, it is believed that there is no additional charge for filing this IDS. However, if there is a charge, please charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account 10-1250. If there are any additional charges, please charge to the same Deposit Account No.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan and Hamburg LLP

By



Frank J. Jordan
Reg. No. 20,456
Attorney for Applicants

Jordan and Hamburg LLP
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10168
(212) 986-2340

FJJ/cj
Enc.

English Translation of claims – DE 26 17 931

Patent Claims

1. A pleated bellows made of a material that can be lengthened to a limited extent only, preferably of a rubberized fabric, for the connection between two successive members of an articulated vehicle forming a corridor or more specifically a closed tube, all the pleats of said bellows having the same, quite small height so as to allow for the pleated bellows to extend or lengthen further in some regions as compared to other regions such as in the corners of the bellows, characterized in that in the regions of the pleated bellows in which the extendibility given by the height of the pleats cannot be fully utilized additional lengthening means are disposed between two successive pleats having the same height by means of which the bellows can be extended or lengthened in these regions to the same extent than in the regions in which the extendibility given by the height of the pleats can be freely made use of.
2. The pleated bellows as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that the additional lengthening means are additional pleats the height of which is smaller than the height of the normal pleats, said height being obtained from the difference of extendibility of the bellows in these regions and in the regions in which the height of the normal pleats may be fully utilized.
3. The pleated bellows as set forth in claim 2, characterized in that a plurality of additional pleats are disposed between two respective pleats having a normal height.
4. The pleated bellows as set forth in claim 2 or 3, characterized in that instead of providing the additional pleat or pleats the normal pleats are themselves bent in the region between two such normal pleats.

5. The pleated bellows as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 4, characterized in that the additional lengthening means continuously taper toward the regions of the pleated bellows that are not provided with said lengthening means.
6. The pleated bellows as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 5, characterized in that, as a result of the additional lengthening means, the extendibility and constancy of the pleated bellows varies in various directions.

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F-7886

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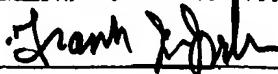
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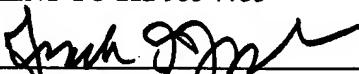
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